Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM). The ratio of contribution between Centre and the States is 50:50 The allocation of Central share under ARWSP to the States is made based on the requirement and availability of funds. This aspects has been taken into consideration while allocating funds under ARWSP to Himachal Pradesh. Based on inter State allocation criteria, the total allocation under ARWSP(N) is Rs. 96.63 crores in 2006-07 and Rs. 96.63 crore has been released to Himachal Pradesh. In addition Rs. 4.50 crores and Rs. 43.86 lakhs have been released under the components of calamity relief and Desert Development Programme (DDP) to the State from ARWSP. The provision of drinking water under ARWSP is confined to rural habitations and not to towns.

Under Bharat Nirman Programme, it is proposed to cover uncovered habitations as well as to address problem of slipped back and quality affected habitations by 2008-09.

Awareness of NREGA

1764. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to generate awareness among the rural population, regarding Employment Guarantee Act and the result thereof; and

(b) the State-wise total number of minorities employed under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) The Government is making concerted efforts to disseminate information about the scheme in the rural areas by the way of audio-visual and printed material based publicity campaigns. States have been advised to hold special Gram Sabhas. As a result thereof the awareness of NREGA among rural population is gathering momentum.

(b) Community-wise data of beneficiaries is not monitored under NREGA.